

PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION “HOT ISSUES” INFORMATION PAPER

SUBJECT: Primary Mission Essential Function / Reconstitution of Federal Government / GSA Continuity Program

1. BACKGROUND:

Both National Security Presidential Directive 51 and Homeland Security Presidential Directive 20, National Continuity Policy, require all Federal Executive Branch Departments and Agencies (D/A) to prepare and exercise for a national continuity event. There are eight National Essential Functions (NEFs) the President and national leadership will focus on to lead and sustain the Nation during a catastrophic emergency. Under the NEF “Lead Government Reconstitution”, GSA has a Primary Mission Essential Function (PMEF) to lead and coordinate Federal Government physical reconstitution efforts, including acquisition and provisioning of real property, commercial goods, and contract services. When a Continuity of Government Condition change happens, all D/As will continue to perform NEFs and PMEFS as usual, both during and in the aftermath of an emergency at an alternate facility for up to 30 days.

A. General Background:

- The Office of Mission Assurance (OMA) serves as GSA’s lead organization for the coordination and integration of the National Continuity Program and the PMEF.
- OMA continually prepares and updates the Senior Emergency Response Team (SERT) on emergency and continuity plans.

B. Issues:

- o The GSA SERT must be trained on their continuity roles immediately.
- o Emergencies and disasters can happen at any time with no warning.

2. SCOPE AND EFFECT:

A. Impact on GSA’s Customers:

- GSA customers in an impacted area should receive services that will enable those agencies to return to operational status in delivery of their missions.
- GSA customers in non-impacted areas should receive regular services, with the caveat of unanticipated resource shifts due to the national emergency.

B. Impact on the Private Sector and State & Local Governments:

GSA will coordinate recovery and planning efforts with State and Local Governments and support recovery with private sector partners through the acquisition of space, supplies, technology, and services through FAS, PBS, and TTS.

3. ACTION(S) PLANNED OR REQUIRED:

- SERT members, including political appointees, must know roles in an emergency or disaster situation.
- According to security clearance level, SERT members will be briefed by OMA staff on their roles and responsibilities and GSA's role in a continuity event.

4. KEY STAKEHOLDER INTEREST:

- The Executive Office of the President expects GSA to lead the government's physical reconstitution.
- GSA provides critical services that impact the public including acquisition, leasing and managing the .gov domain.

5. FISCAL YEAR 2017/2018 BUDGET IMPACT:

The budget is constant unless there is an emergency or continuity event and then additional emergency appropriations or supplemental funding would be required.